

**REPORT/RECOMMENDATION TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
OF SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA
AND RECORD OF ACTION**

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June 24, 2003

FROM: KEN A. MILLER, Director
Department of Public Works -**Transportation**

SUBJECT: **EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT WITH WESLEY GLEASON**

RECOMMENDATION: Approve employment agreement with Wesley Gleason as Transportation Planner for the High Desert Corridor Project in the amount of \$37.52/hour, effective June 28, 2003 through June 30, 2004.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: In FY 2000-01, the Board approved a cooperative agreement between the County, the City of Victorville, and the Town of Apple Valley. This cooperative agreement allows for environmental studies and preliminary engineering for an east/west high desert corridor. A team for this project was assembled. It has now been determined that the addition of a Transportation Planner to the freeway study team is needed for the completion of the project. Mr. Gleason has extensive experience in the areas of planning, preparation of environmental documents and special reports, review of environmental documents, cultural resource evaluations, highway design, as well as extensive liaison experience with Caltrans. The noted cities have specifically requested Mr. Gleason be added to the freeway study team to work on portions of the High Desert Corridor, which is an important project for the future economic growth and transportation needs of the Victor Valley area. In addition to Corridor work, Mr. Gleason may be used to coordinate with Caltrans on various County projects. These County assignments would be of short duration and funded by the specific projects.

The work Mr. Gleason will accomplish for the High Desert Corridor will fluctuate between full-time and intermittent, as needs dictate. The funding for this position is through Caltrans or the cooperative agreement with the cities and is susceptible to reduction or elimination. For these reasons, the Department feels an employment contract with Mr. Gleason is warranted rather than hiring him as a regular status County employee. This employment agreement will be for the term of June 28, 2003 through June 30, 2004. Either party may terminate this agreement at any time without cause by giving the other party a fifteen (15) day written notice of termination. The employment contract was a result of an advertisement and selection interview process conducted by the Department for the high desert corridor team. Mr. Gleason shall be compensated at the hourly rate of \$37.52, will be covered by the County's Worker's Compensation Insurance, and will participate in the County's P.S.T. Deferred Compensation Plan in lieu of participation in the County's Retirement System.

REVIEW BY OTHERS: This item was reviewed by Deputy County Counsel Andrew Hartzell on May 21, 2003 and by County Administrative Office (Tom Forster, Administrative Analyst) on June 14, 2003.

FINANCIAL IMPACT: The cost of this agreement will be funded from the Department's Fund SVB-TRA-TRA for a total amount estimated at \$82,542. Sufficient appropriations for the cost of this employment agreement are programmed in the Fund's FY 2003/04 budget. The Department will be reimbursed for these costs from the Town of Apple Valley and the City of Victorville in accordance with the cooperative agreement.

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COST REDUCTION REVIEW: The County Administrative Office has reviewed this item and concurs with the Department's recommendation based on the Project's need for a Transportation Planner and the fact that the Department will be fully reimbursed for the cost of this employee.

SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT(S): 1st

PRESENTER: Ken A. Miller, 387-7906

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